



# ALL THINGS NEW

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STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

PARISH WORKBOOK  
OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE - HOUSE SPRINGS

# ABOUT YOUR PARISH WORKBOOK

- This parish workbook is designed to equip pastors and key parish leaders with data about the Archdiocese of St. Louis, your local planning area, and your parish.
- The data contained in this parish workbook has been gathered over the past twenty years from your parish and other parishes across the Archdiocese.
- This parish workbook should be used as an internal planning tool to help shape your reflections on the current strengths and opportunities for future growth of ministry and evangelization in the future.
- To help ensure accuracy of information, parishes are requested to limit the distribution of the information contained in this parish workbook to the pastor, parish staff, key parish leaders, and key advisory bodies. Information summarizing this data will be made available in the fall 2022 for parishioners across the Archdiocese.



# ALL THINGS NEW PRAYER

Heavenly Father, you sent your Son Jesus as the first Evangelizer of the Good News.

Send forth the power of the Holy Spirit upon the Church of St. Louis and grant us the gift of true discernment so we may do your will in all things.

Help us be totally free to follow wherever you lead us, totally generous to be good stewards of your many gifts, and totally passionate to suffer all in order to be more closely united to you.

Commissioned by your Son and empowered by the Spirit to “Go and Make Disciples of all Nations,” strengthen us by the power of your grace as we bring the Good News of Salvation into the lives of all those we touch, so that individual hearts and all of society may be converted to you and all things might be made new.

Inspired by the apostolic zeal of previous generations, as we begin the process of planning for the future, may our only desire be to do all things for the greater glory and honor of your name and for the good of your people in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



## GUIDING TEXTS

### REV. 21:3-5

*I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them.*

*He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, the old order has passed away.”*

*The one who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” Then he said, “Write these words down, for they are trustworthy and true.”*





## GUIDING TEXTS EVANGELII NUNTIANDI (#18)

*For the Church, evangelizing means bringing the Good News into all the strata of humanity, and through its influence transforming humanity from within and making it new: "Now I am making the whole of creation new."*

*But there is no new humanity if there are not first of all new persons renewed by Baptism and by lives lived according to the Gospel.*







## GUIDING TEXTS JOY OF THE GOSPEL (#27)

*I dream of a “missionary option”, that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church’s customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today’s world rather than for her self-preservation.*



# STRATEGIC PASTORAL PLANNING INITIATIVE OUTCOME

**Develop a plan that will make all things new enabling a vibrant Catholic presence in every square mile of the Archdiocese of St. Louis for the next century**

## **A Renewed Church**

Gospel renewal in our parishes, schools, and other ministry efforts

## **A Renewed Mission**

Enhance our evangelization efforts to those on the margins of society

## **A Vibrant Future**

Secure a vibrant future for the Church of St. Louis



# STRATEGIC PASTORAL PLANNING INITIATIVE

## GOALS

1. **Unceasing Prayer.** Engage all individual Catholics to reflect upon the need for Jesus Christ in their daily lives and call upon the Holy Spirit to guide our actions to fully share the love of the Lord in every encounter.
2. **Unifying Vision.** Articulate and implement a vision for evangelization that empowers and expects every baptized Catholic to spread the Gospel message and ensures a Catholic presence in every square mile of the Archdiocese of St. Louis through missionary outreach, parish and school footprint, and dynamic leadership.
3. **Intentional Stewardship.** Define and develop a plan that will appropriately reallocate resources throughout the Archdiocese of St. Louis that will be supported by structures at the diocesan, parish, school, and agency levels to ensure long-term viability and vibrancy of the Catholic presence.





# ALL THINGS NEW TIMELINE





# ALL THINGS NEW

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STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

OUR DIOCESE  
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

# ABOUT OUR DIOCESE

- The Archdiocese of St. Louis is 178 parishes encompassing the City of St. Louis and 10 surrounding counties – a large and diverse territory: urban, suburban and rural.
- Our local church has been declining for several decades as older Catholics die and there are insufficient number of young Catholics to take their place.
- This is best exemplified by the significant decline in the number of births and baptisms in our diocese.
- As our Catholic population has moved from the city to the near suburbs and from the near suburbs to the farther out suburbs, this has resulted in too few priests in large parishes and too many priests in small parishes.
- Our diocesan priests are aging and number of priests to serve our Catholic population is declining.
- Over the past decade, Mass attendance has been on a steady decline. The long-term implications of COVID are unknown, but the rebound in Mass attendance from 2020 to 2021 still leaves us 25% below pre-COVID levels.



# OUR TERRITORY FOR EVANGELIZATION



# OUR CATHOLIC POPULATION CONTINUES TO DECLINE

- In 2021, the number of Catholics in the Archdiocese of St. Louis dipped below 500,000 for first time since the 1960s.
- We have more baptisms than funerals and we have nearly 1,000 enter the church each year. Our numbers should be growing by 2,000 per year.
- As many as 5,000 Catholics are “leaving” the Church – OR – not re-engaging in the Church after high school or college.



# OUR CATHOLIC POPULATION IS AGING RESULTING IN FEWER YOUNG PEOPLE

## The Landscape in the United States

- In the last decade, the percentage of the adult population claiming no religious affiliation (the “nones”) grew from 17% to 26%.
- In the last decade, the percentage of the millennial population claiming no religious affiliation grew from 27% to 40%.

## The Landscape in the Archdiocese of St. Louis

Our baptism and marriage trends reflect the national landscape, as they are half of what they were 20 years ago.





# WEEKLY SUNDAY MASS ATTENDANCE CONTINUES TO DECLINE

- Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Mass attendance was declining between 0.5% to 1% per year.
- Mass attendance hit a record low in October 2020 which is attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- While Mass attendance in October 2021 showed a significant increase from 2020, it was still 25% lower than Mass attendance in October 2019.
- In 2019, only 33% of our pews were occupied during the typical weekend Mass. By 2021, only 25% of our pews were occupied during the typical weekend Mass.



# FEWER BAPTISMS HAVE RESULTED IN FEWER CHILDREN IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS AND PSR

- Though we educate a higher percentage of children in our Catholic schools than nearly any other diocese (37%), enrollment continues to decline.
- During the last decade, PSR enrollment has declined faster than day school enrollment.
- Our current model of Catholic elementary schools cannot continue.
  - Only 40-50% of our elementary school children live in the boundaries of their parish school.
  - The cost to educate our students continues to outpace tuition increases.
  - Parish investment in our schools continues to absorb an increasing percentage of parish funds available to support other parish ministries.



# OUR PRIESTS ARE AGING

- 35% of our diocesan priests (74 priests) serving in parishes are 65 years of age or older.
- These 74 priests could retire in the next 10 years.
- Though priests' retirement age is 75, the average of retirement for our diocesan priests has been 71.
- By 2026, we will have fewer diocesan priests to serve in parishes than the number of parishes we have.
- Our largest parishes will still need to be served by 2-3 priests.



\* Excluding retired priests resident in parishes



# OUR FINITE RESOURCES NEED TO BE REALIGNED TO ENABLE VIBRANT MINISTRY



Number of Priests *	49	46	38	27	50
Ratio of Parishioners to Priests	619	1,416	1,996	2,704	3,411

\* Includes diocesan and religious order priests





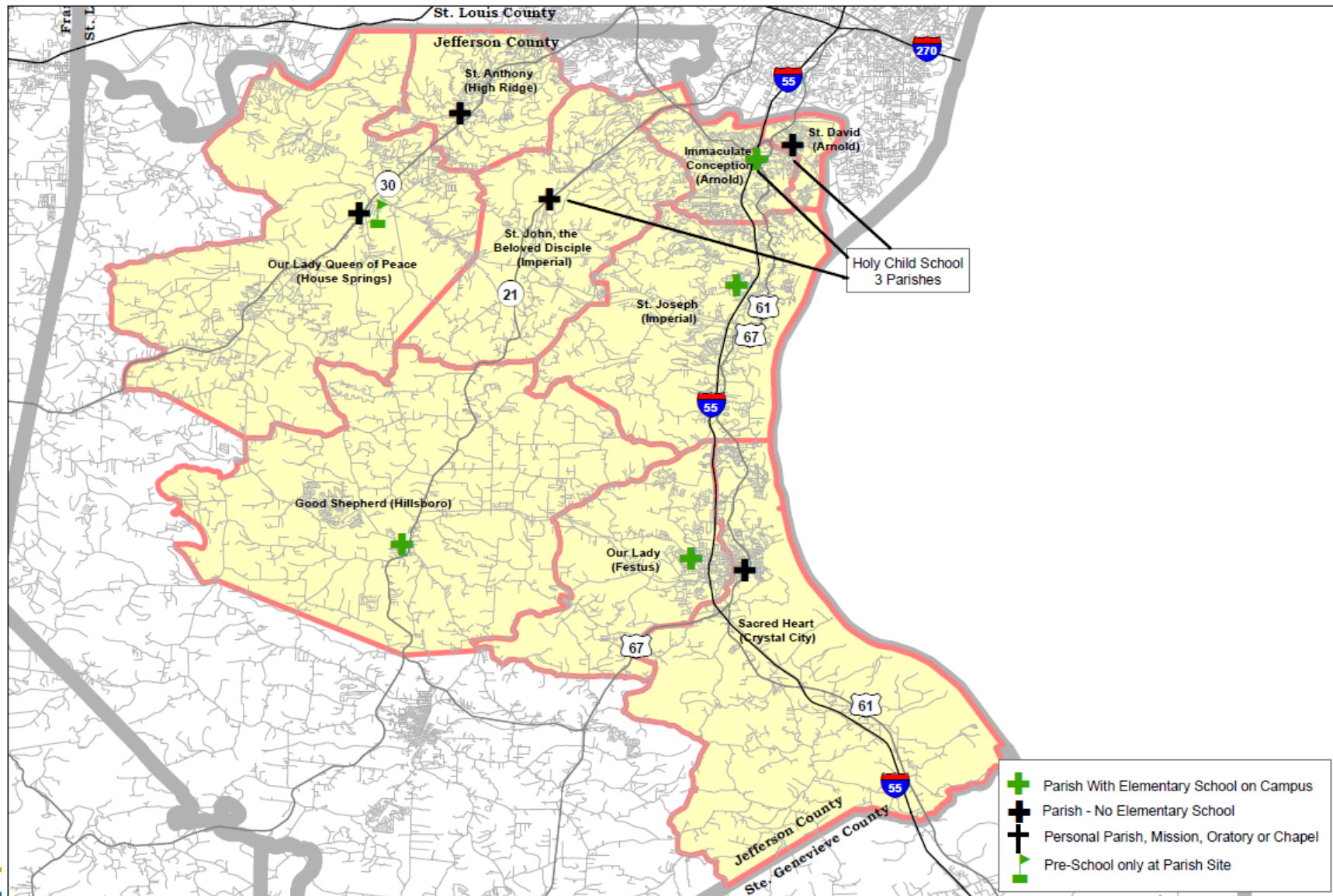
# ALL THINGS NEW

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STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

OUR PLANNING AREA  
PLANNING AREA #13

# OUR TERRITORY FOR EVANGELIZATION





# ABOUT OUR PLANNING AREA

- The planning area is in Jefferson County. The geography of this area is defined by Interstate 55, Routes 30 and 21, Meramec River to the north and the Mississippi River to the east.
- Located in Festus deanery. There are 9 territorial parishes and 4 elementary schools. Currently there are 11 diocesan priests assigned to this group.
- Parishes and church buildings are located along Interstate 55, Highway 21, and Highway 30, but east-west travel is difficult.



## OUR PLANNING AREA HAS BEEN GROWING SLIGHTLY, WITH AN AGING POPULATION

- Total population in the planning area in the 2020 census was up 4% from 2010.
- The population 55 or older increased from 18% in 2000 to 29% in 2020.
- 15% of the population is registered Catholic, which is lower than the Diocesan average of 18%.
- Median household income in the area is \$66,481, which is above the archdiocesan average of \$60,700.



# OUR PLANNING AREA DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

(U.S. Census Data)	1990	2000	2010	2020
Population	131,807	152,971	174,093	181,798
Percent Change		16%	14%	4%
Households	44,990	54,736	64,458	69,209
Percent Change		22%	18%	7%
Population				
White	129,808	149,097	167,905	164,493
Percent of Total	98%	97%	96%	90%
Black	1,009	1,064	1,470	1,910
Percent of Total	1%	1%	1%	1%
Other/Multi-Race	991	2,811	4,718	15,395
Percent of Total	1%	2%	3%	8%
Hispanic (not a race)	914	1,568	2,772	4,340
Percent of Total	1%	1%	2%	2%
% of Population Age 55+	15%	18%	23%	29%

## 2020 Data

% of Households - Renters 20%

% of Households - Single Person Living Alone 21%

## Median Household Income

Planning Area \$ 66,481

Archdiocese \$ 60,700

## 2021 Data

% of Population Registered Catholic

Planning Area 15%

Archdiocese 18%

No. of Catholic School Children in Planning Area 1,001

## 2017-2021 (Five-Year Average)

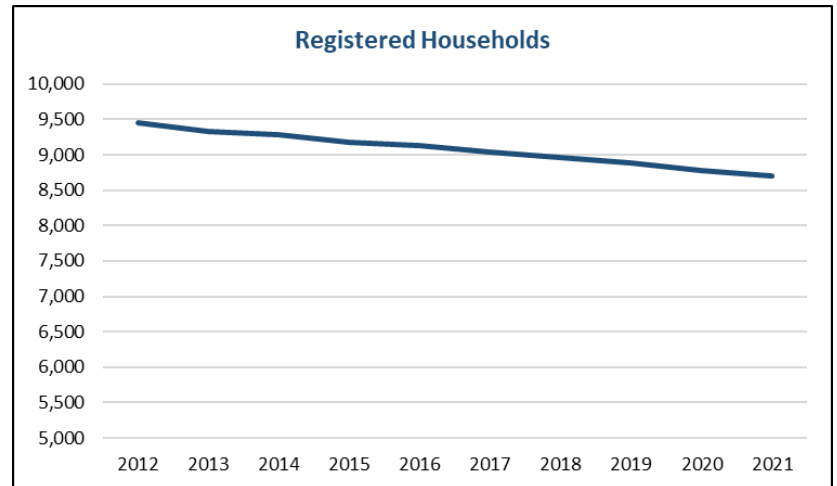
% 8th Grade Students to Catholic High Schools 84%



# OUR PLANNING AREA SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

## REGISTERED HOUSEHOLDS

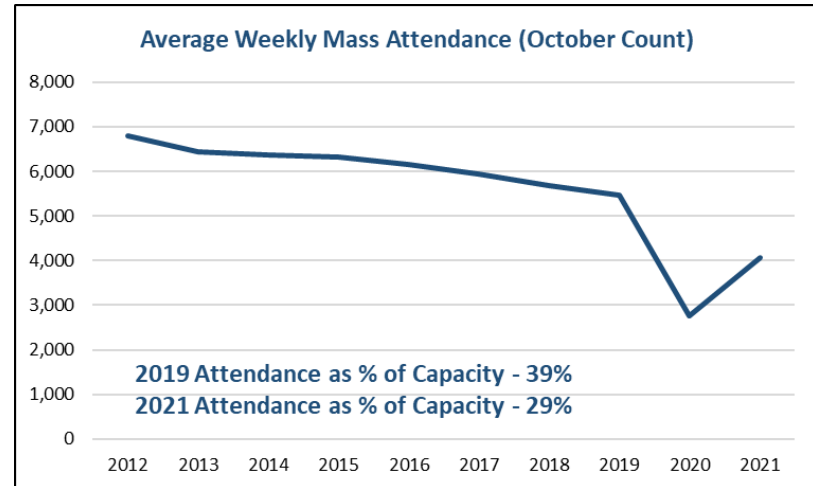
- Registered households in the planning area declined by 8% during the past decade, compared to a decline of 7% for the diocese.



# OUR PLANNING AREA SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

## MASS ATTENDANCE

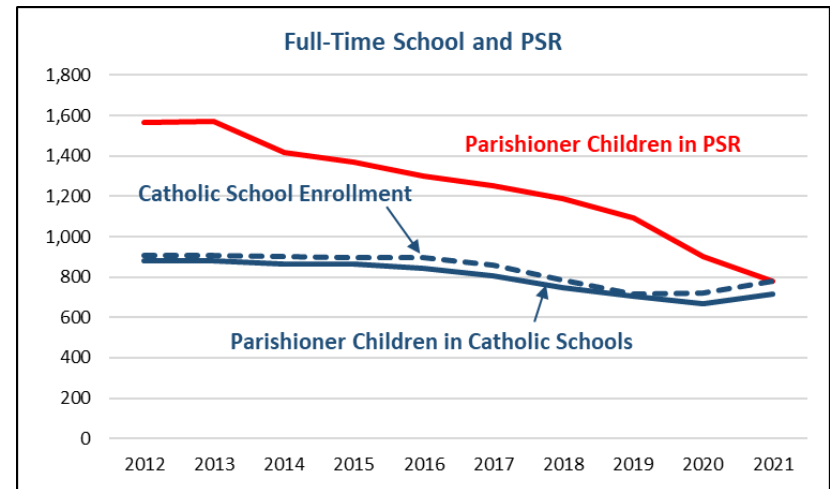
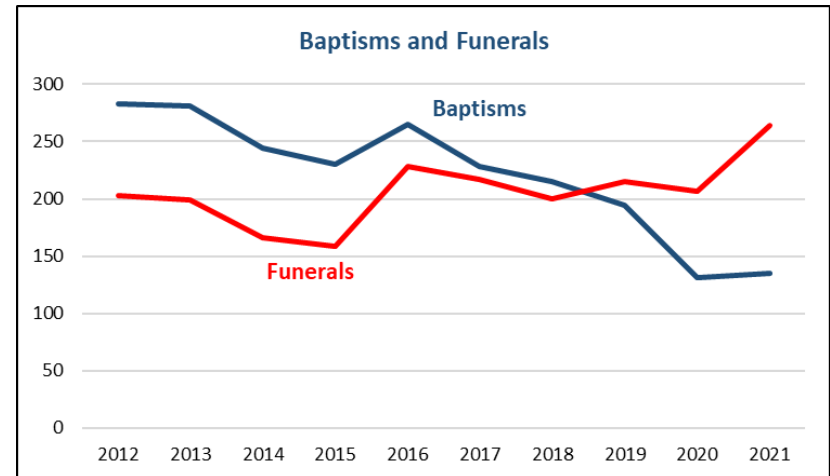
- Mass attendance declined 30% during the decade, the same the archdiocese as a whole.
- Mass attendance as percent of capacity was above the archdiocesan average of 35% in 2019 and 25% in 2021.



# OUR PLANNING AREA SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

## BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, & K-8 FORMATION

- Baptisms have been declining and funerals increasing, though the 2020 and 2021 funeral counts are impacted by a parish that has a special and significant funeral ministry.
- Catholic school enrollment has decline by 14% during the past decade, compared to 22% for the diocese as a whole.
- PSR enrollment declined by 50% during the past decade, the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest decline of any planning area.





# OUR PLANNING AREA

## MINISTRY TRENDS

	Registered Parishioner Households		Number of Catholics	Weekend Mass Attendance		Church Capacity	Baptisms	Funerals	Parishioner Children in:	
							Five Year Average 2017-2021		Catholic Schools (Include Privates)	Traditional PSR
	2011	2021	2021	2019	2021					
Good Shepherd (Hillsborro)	662	615	1,680	443	324	140	11	13	52	44
Immaculate Conception (Arnold)	1,470	1,319	3,945	675	384	400	29	28	150	120
Our Lady (Festus)	985	971	2,569	648	609	530	23	23	136	84
Our Lady Queen of Peace (House Springs)	1,100	779	2,150	486	353	600	15	32	28	80
Sacred Heart (Crystal City)	1,155	1,120	2,625	555	403	316	12	46	22	55
St. Anthony (High Ridge)	895	885	2,510	n/a *	n/a *	350	14	15	27	112
St. David (Arnold)	712	638	1,715	438	327	500	10	13	14	45
St. John, the Beloved Disciple (Imperial)	467	393	1,070	320	227	350	8	26	8	26
St. Joseph (Imperial)	1,985	1,975	6,230	1,450	1,090	500	59	26	279	216
TOTAL	9,431	8,695	24,494	5,015	3,717		181	221	716	782

\* St. Anthony (High Ridge) parish does not participate in the October Mass Counts



# OUR PLANNING AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT IS DECLINING

- The four elementary schools in this planning area have 781 children enrolled in Catholic elementary schools, down 13% from 5 years ago.
- Most schools draw heavily from outside their parish boundaries.
- The number of students going to Catholic elementary schools from the parishes in the planning area is 716.
- There are 782 students enrolled in PSR in 2021, down 40% from 5 years earlier.



# OUR PLANNING AREA

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRENDS

	2021-22	2021-22	2021-22 vs 2016-17	2021-22	2021-22
	Enrollment (K-8)	Enrollment (Pre-K) PK 3-4 & PK 4-5	5 Year Percent Change in (K-8) Enrollment	% K-8 Students Registered in Parish	% K-8 Students Living in Parish Boundaries
Good Shepherd - Hillsboro	77	37	5%	58%	58%
Holy Child School - Arnold (3 parishes)	201	58	2%	80%	62%
Our Lady - Festus	170	56	(34%)	73%	41%
St. Joseph - Imperial	333	88	27%	81%	55%
TOTAL (% Change includes schools that closed)	781	239	(13%)	n/a	n/a





# ALL THINGS NEW

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OUR PARISH  
OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE - HOUSE SPRINGS

# ABOUT OUR PARISH

- Our Lady Queen of Peace in House Springs was established in 1961 from the merger of St. Philomena parish and St. Columbkille mission. St. Columbkille was established in the 1840s and St. Philomena had dated its origin to 1905. The newly formed parish moved to its current site in 1961, located just off of Highway 30 and the parish area is an elongated territory surrounding Highway 30. The parish school also established at that time was unique in that it was a series of stand-alone buildings that were not connected. The parish school closed in 2019. The parish has continued to manage a pre-school.
- This is a parish of 780 households. The parish church was built when the new parish was formed in 1961 and seats 600. There are two parish cemeteries, neither at the parish site: one is located about 1.5 miles away (former St. Philomena site), the other 6 miles away (former St. Columbkille site).



# ABOUT OUR PARISH

- The parish area is aging. Most of the growth is occurring in the far northwest corner of the parish where the Catholics have tended to join Most Sacred Heart parish.
- Parish is experiencing a decline in membership, Mass attendance and children in Catholic schools and PSR. Baptisms are also down. The parish recently began a new funeral ministry which extends to all denominations.
- As the school closed and offertory declined, the parish has maintained and grown reserves.





# OUR PARISH AREA HAS GROWN IN AREAS WHERE THE CATHOLICS CHOOSE OTHER PARISHES

- The parish is aging as the number of households has grown modestly over the past two decades and yet population has been flat. Household size is decreasing.
- Much of the growth in the parish area has been in the far northwest part of the territory and most of those Catholics have joined other parishes, especially Most Sacred Heart in Eureka.
- Median household income is \$66,000 which is just above the Diocesan average of \$60,700.
- 13% of the resident population is Catholic which is below the archdiocesan average of 18%, but typical for Jefferson County.



# OUR PARISH

## DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

(U.S. Census Data)	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2020</u>
Population	19,215	22,054	22,583	22,850
Percent Change		15%	2%	1%
Households	6,466	7,759	8,382	8,735
Percent Change		20%	8%	4%
Population				
White	19,073	21,625	21,930	20,933
Percent of Total	99%	98%	97%	92%
Black	23	34	67	94
Percent of Total	0%	0%	0%	0%
Other/Multi-Race	118	395	586	1,824
Percent of Total	1%	2%	3%	8%
Hispanic (not a race)	136	203	331	462
Percent of Total	1%	1%	1%	2%
% of Population Age 55+	14%	17%	24%	29%

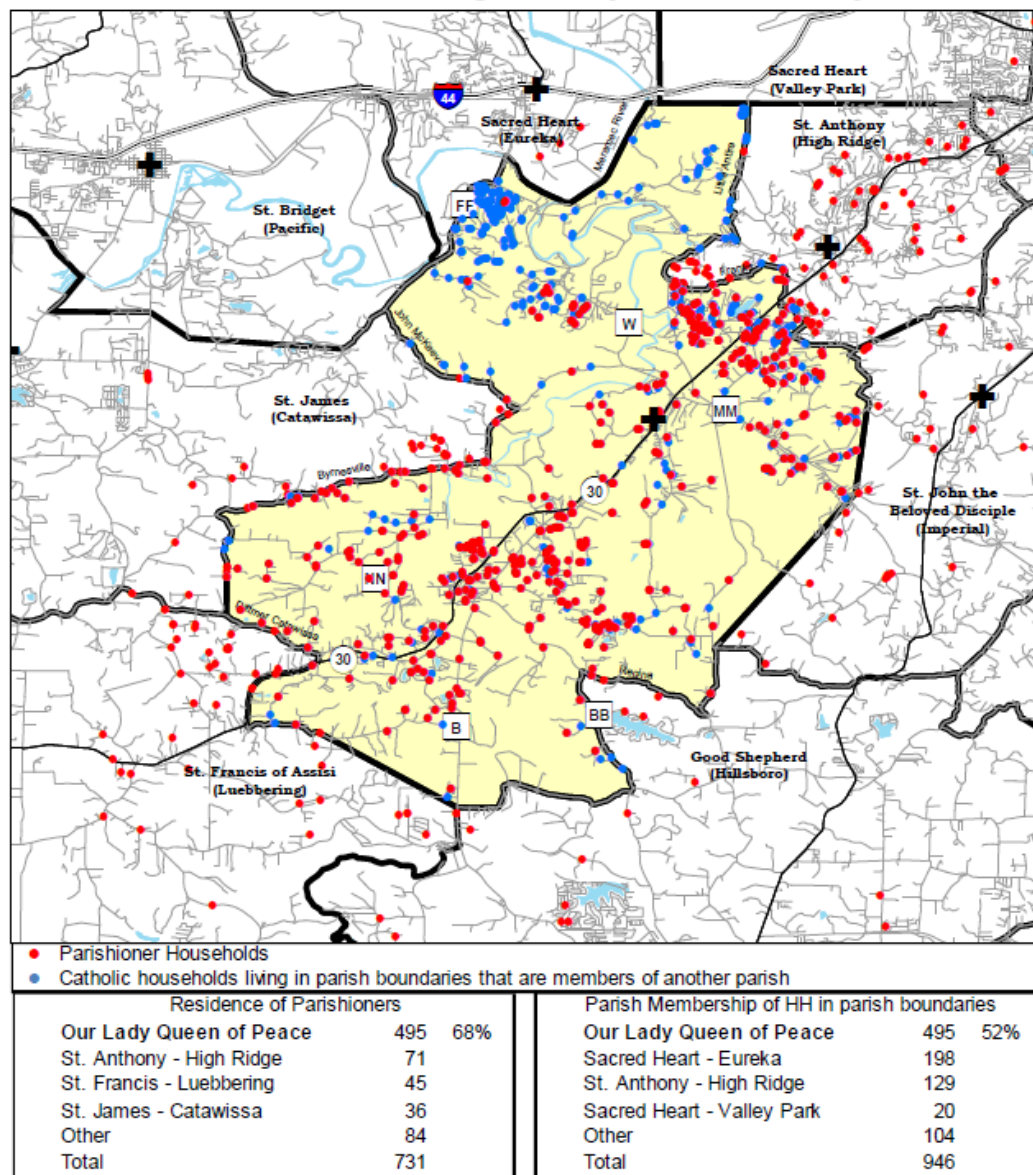
2020 Data	
% of Households - Renters	17%
% of Households - Single Person Living Alone	22%
Median Household Income	
Parish Area	\$66,031
Archdiocese	\$60,700
2021 Data	
% of Population Registered Catholic	
Parish Area	13%
Archdiocese	18%
No. of Catholic School Children in Parish Area	92
2017-2021 (Five-Year Average)	
% 8th Grade Students to Catholic High Schools	n/a



# WHERE OUR PARISHIONERS & CATHOLICS LIVE

- Red dots are parishioner households; blue dots are Catholic households in the boundaries that are registered at a different parish.
- There are far more Catholic households in the parish territory (946) than there are parishioner households (731).
- This means that more Catholic households leave the parish area to register elsewhere than come into the parish from outside the boundaries
- There has been new construction in the northwestern corner of the parish area, but nearly all of those Catholics (blue dots) are closer to and thus register at Most Sacred Heart parish.
- Catholics who are clustered half way between Our Lady Queen of Peace church and St. Anthony church are frequently choosing St. Anthony parish.

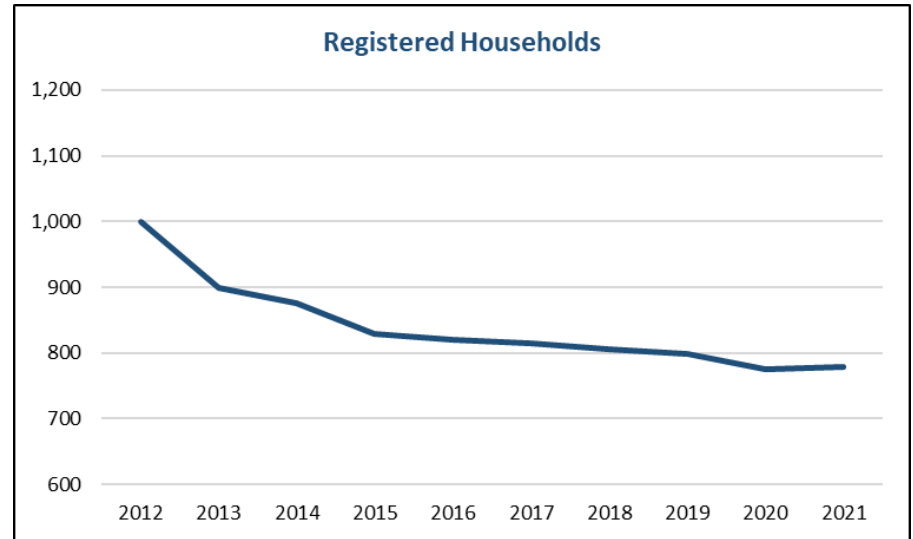
68 Percent of parishioner households live within the parish boundaries  
52 Percent of Catholic households living within the parish boundaries are parishioners



# OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

## REGISTERED HOUSEHOLDS

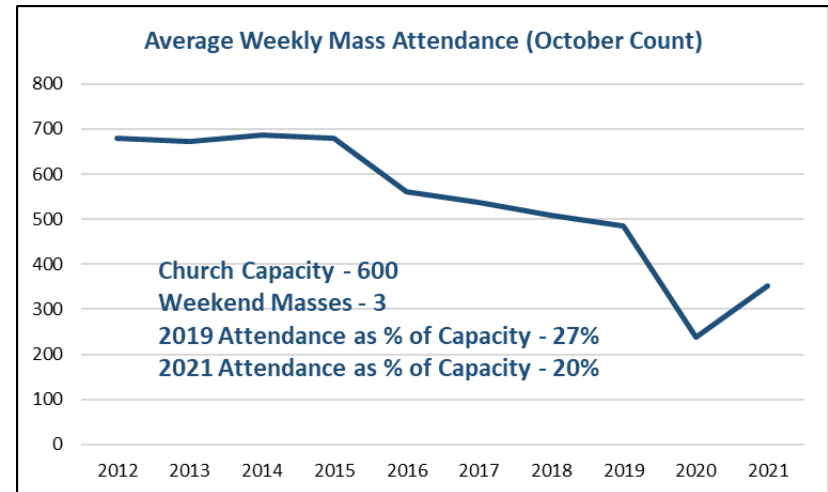
- Parishioner decline has stabilized after declining rapidly at the beginning of this past decade.



# OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

## MASS ATTENDANCE

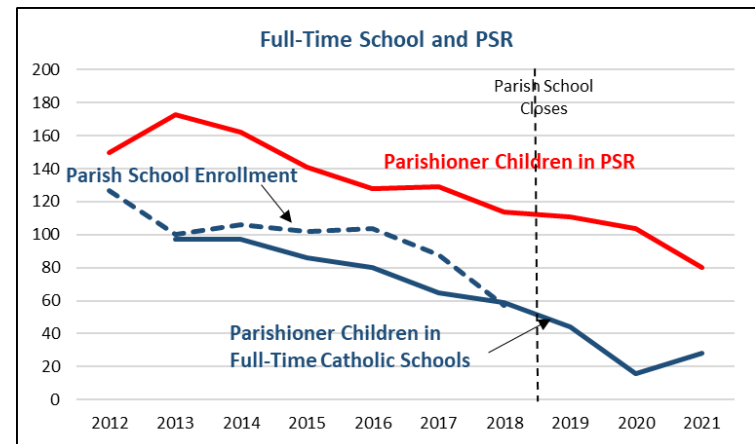
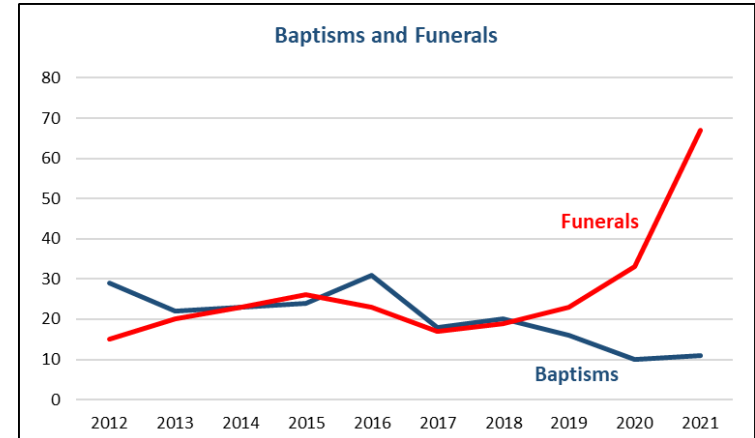
- Mass attendance has declined over the past decade.
- Mass attendance as percent of capacity is below the archdiocesan average of 33% in 2019 and 25% in 2021.
- Pre-COVID Mass attendance as percent of registered parishioners was 22-24%, below the Archdiocesan average of 27-29%.



# OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

## BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, & K-8 RELIGIOUS FORMATION

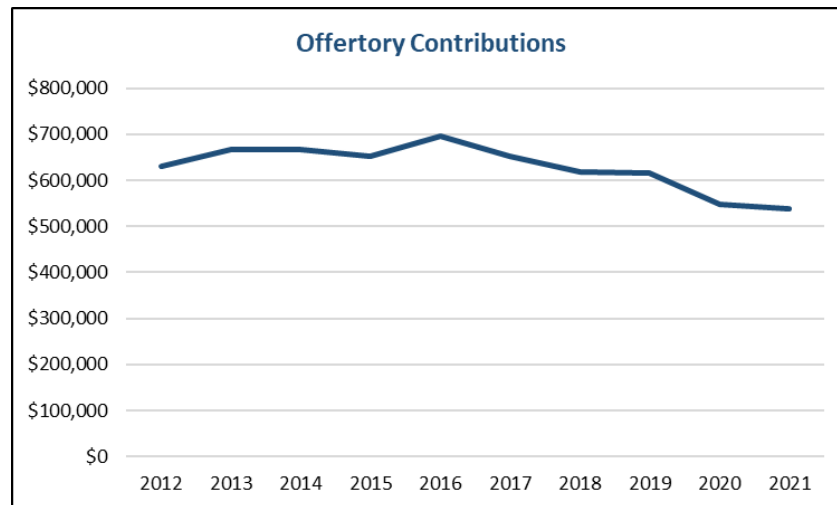
- Baptisms have been on a decline in recent years.
- The significant increase in funerals represents a relatively new parish funeral ministry that extends also to non-Catholics and those beyond the parish area.
- When the parish school closed, the number of parishioner children in day schools continued to decline.
- When the parish school closed, there was not an increase in PSR enrollment, as PSR continued to decline to half as many children as a decade ago.



# OUR PARISH FINANCIAL TRENDS

## OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

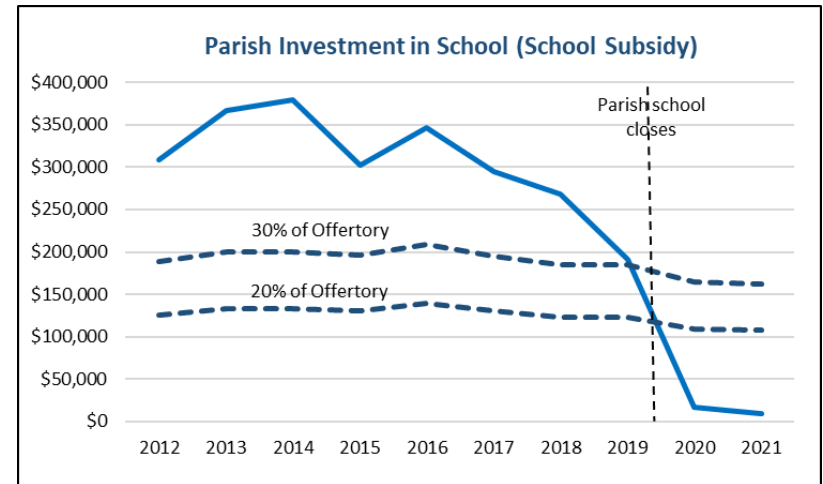
- Offertory has been on a gradual decline during the past five years.



# OUR PARISH FINANCIAL TRENDS

## INVESTMENT IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

- Parish investment in the school was significantly above the recommended 20-30% of offertory up until the time school closed.
- The parish is still making an investment to the parishes that are educating parishioner children.





# OUR PARISH FINANCIAL TRENDS

## PARISH FINANCIAL CONDITION

- Revenues have matches expenses throughout the past decade enabling reserves to remain stable.

